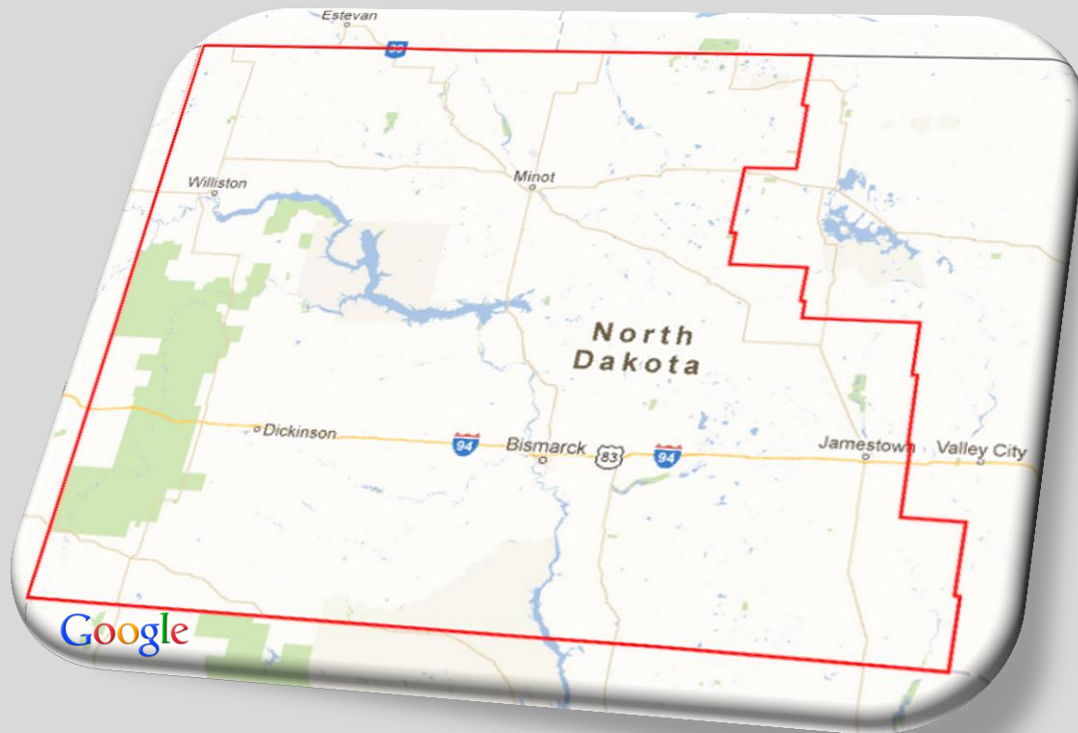




El Niño Watch 2012



**National Weather Service
Bismarck, ND**

<http://www.weather.gov/bis>

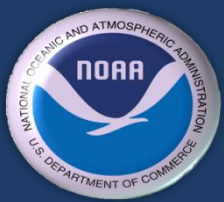
Email: w-bis.webmaster@noaa.gov

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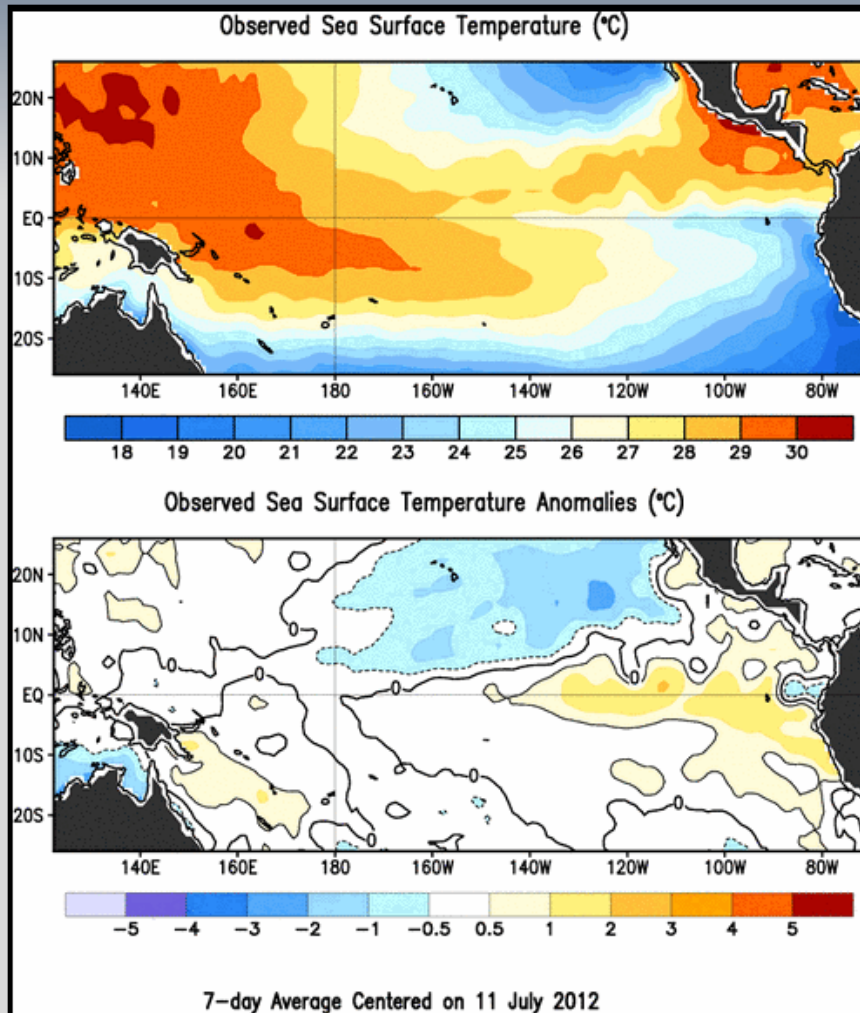


- Current conditions indicate that El Niño conditions are likely to develop by September and continue through the 2012-2013 winter season.
- An El Niño Watch was issued months ago by the Climate Prediction Center and remains in effect.



El Niño Watch 2012

Current Seas Surface Temperature Anomalies

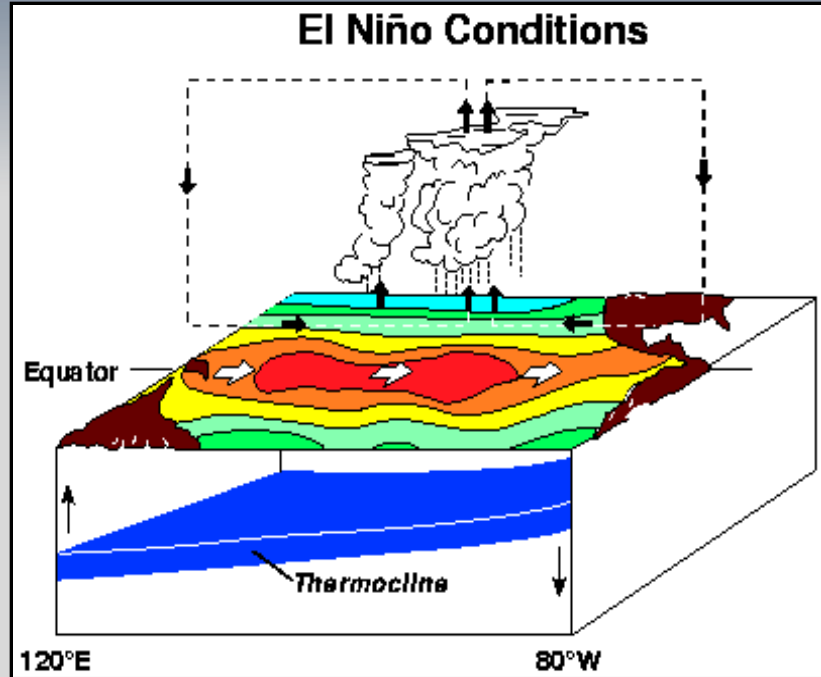


- Sea surface temperatures steadily increased across the eastern Equatorial Pacific during July.
- As a result, there is an extensive area of above normal temperatures across most of the Equatorial Pacific.

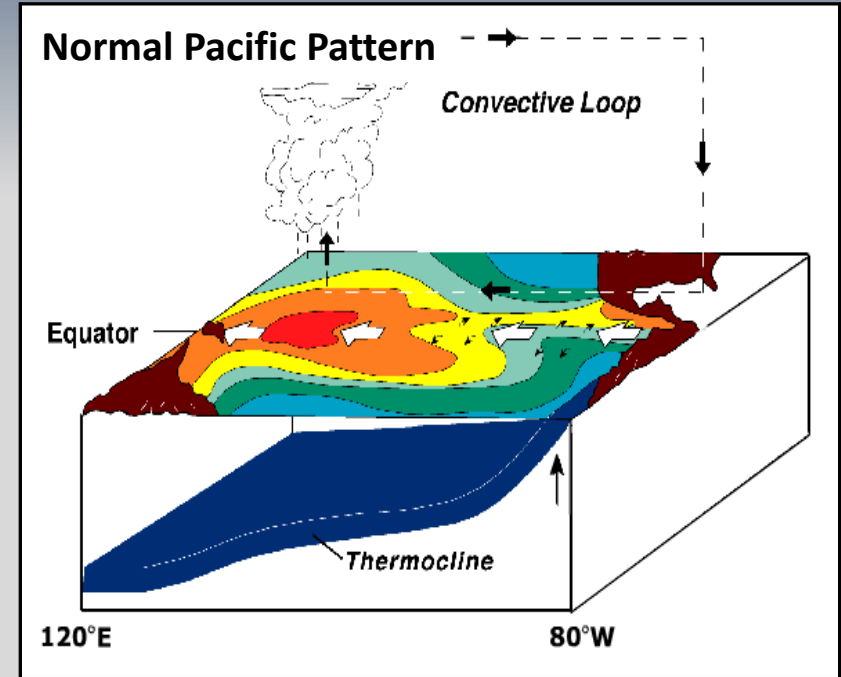


El Niño Watch 2012

What is El Niño?



Above normal sea surface temperatures in the Eastern Pacific



Warmer water west with colder water along South American coast.

El Niño is known to impact the weather patterns across North Dakota, especially during the winter and spring.

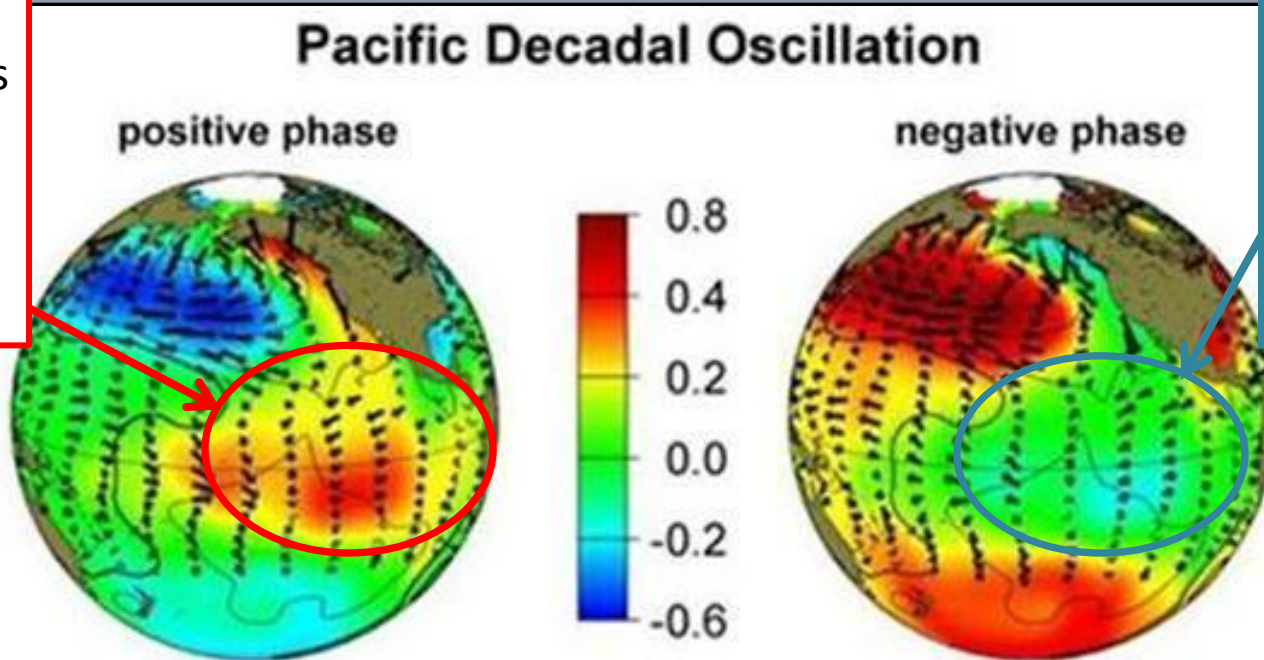


El Niño Watch 2012



What is the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)?

Warmer than normal waters across the northeast Pacific and Equator



Cooler than normal waters across the northeast Pacific and Equator

Negative Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) is ongoing and is forecast to stay negative through the upcoming winter.

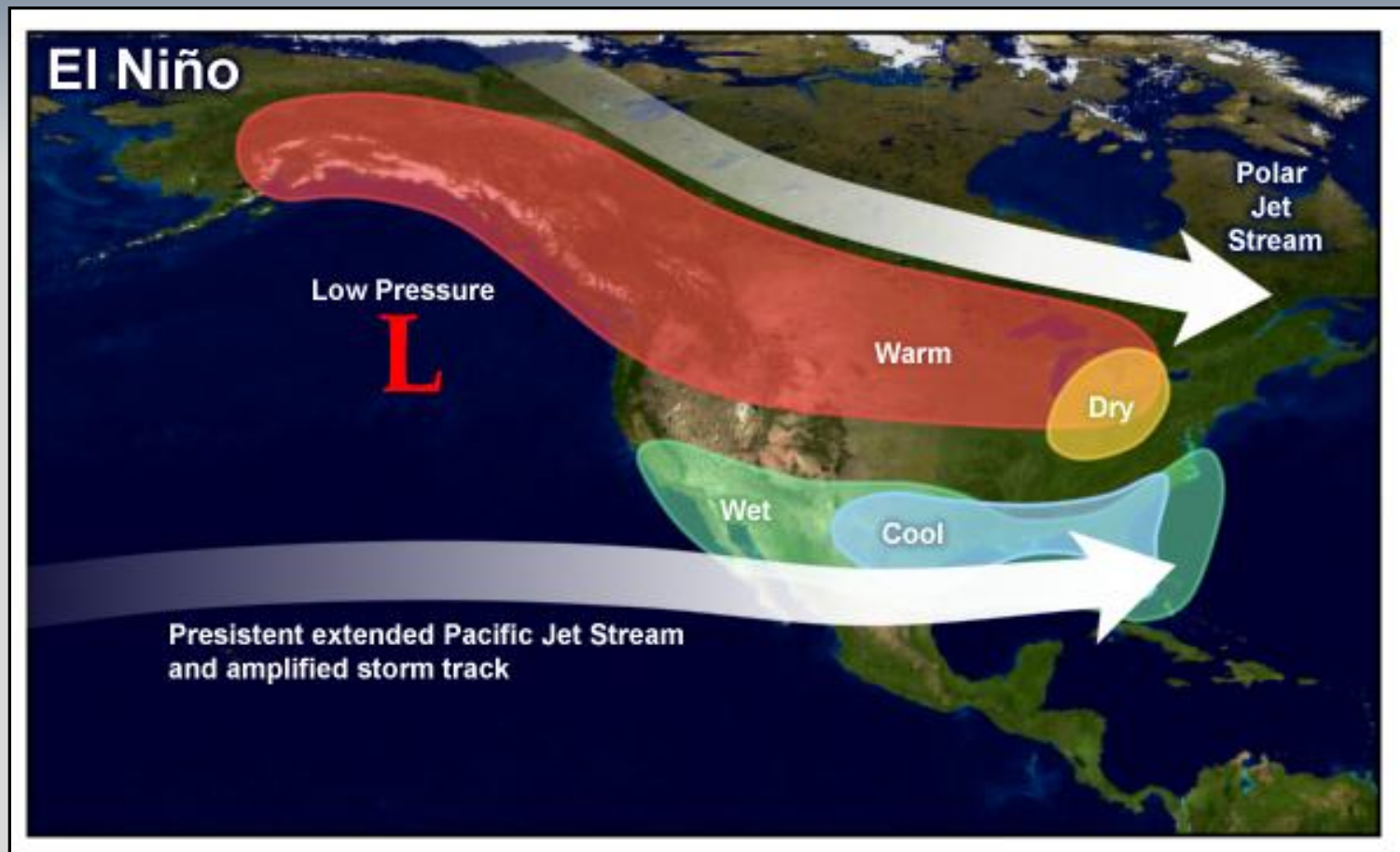
Negative PDO is known to weaken the effects of El Niño.



El Niño Watch 2012



Typical Climate Pattern for North America during El Niño



Warmer North Dakota conditions are favored during an El Niño as the polar jet stream is diverted north.



El Niño Watch 2012

What is in store for North Dakota?



Local El Niño/PDO Research has demonstrated this event favors...

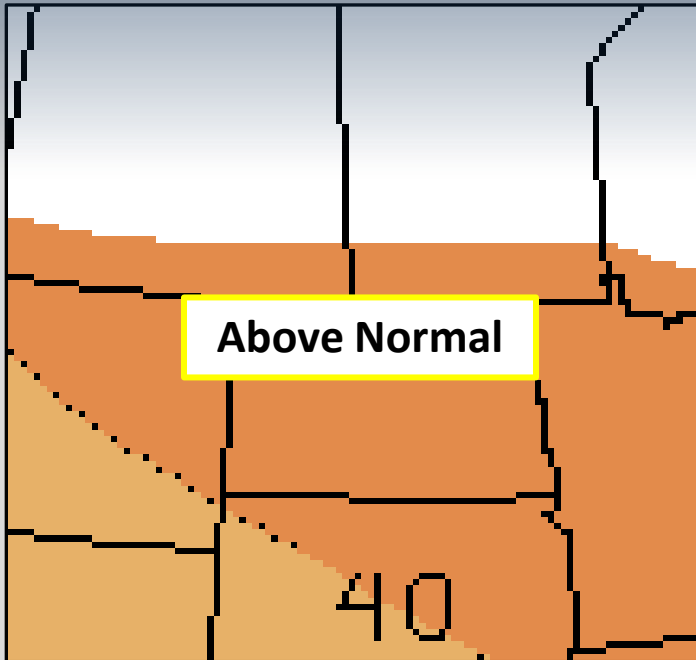
	Fall	Winter
Temperature	Below Normal	Above Normal
Precipitation	Below Normal	Near Normal
Snowfall	Below Normal	Below Normal
Snowfall Events 1" or greater	Below Normal	Below Normal

- Although only a weak El Niño is forecast to develop, past events suggest that the regional effects will be similar to a moderate El Niño.

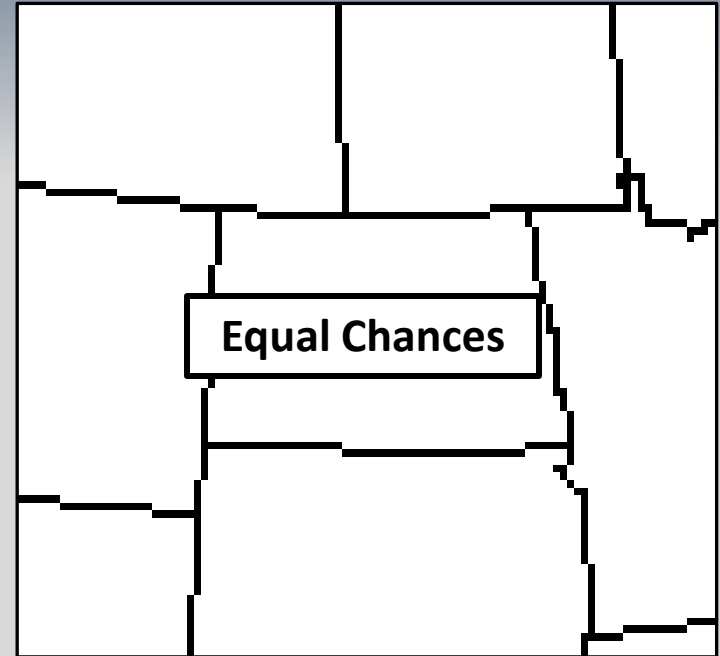


Fall 2012

Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks



Temperature



Precipitation

Meteorological Fall encompasses September through November

“Equal Chances” = Equal chances for above normal, near normal, or below normal conditions.



El Niño Watch 2012

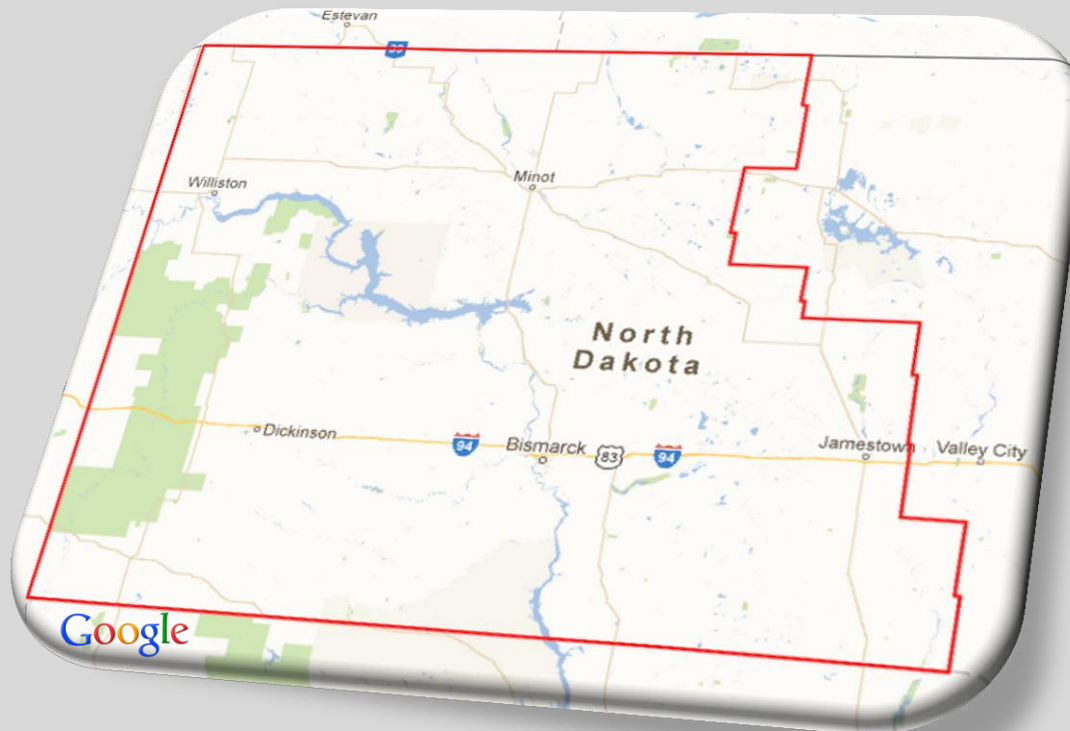
Summary



- An El Niño episode is expected to develop by September
 - El Niño Watch remains in effect.
- Local El Niño research has shown that North Dakota is favored for:
 - Cooler and drier conditions during the Fall season.
 - Warmer conditions with near normal precipitation and below normal snowfall during the Winter season.
- Current climate outlooks take under consideration the very warm and dry ongoing conditions and have North Dakota favored for:
 - Warmer than normal temperatures.
 - Equal chances for precipitation during the fall.



El Niño Watch 2012



For questions and additional information:

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